

Remarks

Claim Amendments

Claims 1-20 were pending in this application. By way of this amendment and response, claims 6, 12 and 20 have been amended for punctuation and typographical errors. *No new matter has been added.*

Restriction

In the Office Action mailed May 28, 2009, the Office has required restriction under 35 USC 121 of claims 1-20 as follows.

Group I: Claims 1-14 and 17-19, drawn to a module useful for purifying a fluid;

Group II: Claim 15, drawn to a method of fabricating a fluid purification module; and

Group III: Claims 16 and 20, drawn to a method of cleaning a fluid purification system.

See, page 2 of the Office Action mailed May 28, 2009.

Without acquiescing to the validity of this restriction and solely in an effort to expedite prosecution and allowance of the pending claims, Applicants elect the claims of ***Group I*** (i.e., claims 1-14 and 17-19) for further prosecution on the merits.

Applicants understand that any method claims may be subject to rejoinder if the module claims from which they depend are found allowable.

The foregoing election was made solely to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims, in this application or in a related application.

Additionally, the Office requires an election of species in this case. Specifically, the Office requires a species election of alleged species 1 directed to cleaning agent being housed in a recess in a raised portion of the housing and alleged species 2 directed to cleaning agent being housed in a space delimited by a cage.

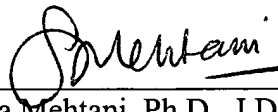
Without acquiescing to the validity of this species election and solely in an effort to expedite prosecution and allowance of the pending claims, Applicants elect species 1 directed to cleaning agent being housed in a recess in a raised portion of the housing for search purposes only. Applicants submit that at least claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 and 20 read on the elected species.

Applicants understand that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments, allowance of the instant application with all pending claims is respectfully solicited. If a telephonic conversation with Applicant's attorney would help expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the number below. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account no. 13-3577.

Respectfully submitted

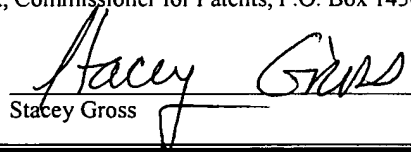


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 16, 2009.


Stacey Gross